

Measure L Citizens' Oversight Committee

1st Floor City Council Conference Room Area 'B' Monday September 8, 2014 APPROVED MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

George 'Andy' Anderson, L. Scott Garver, Eddie Thomas, Ron Carter, Robert Gould

Regular Meeting – 5:30 p.m.

This meeting room is wheelchair accessible. Accommodations and access to City meetings for people with other handicaps may be requested of the City Clerk (499-5002) five working days in advance of the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 5:32

ROLL CALL

Present: A. Anderson, S. Garver, R Carter, R Gould

Absent: R. McQuiston, E. Thomas Staff: Chief R. Strand, Dennis Speer,

Recording Secretary: K. Harker

APPROVAL OF AGENDA Motion To Approve Agenda Was Made By Mr. Anderson, Seconded by Mr. Gould. Motion Carried By Voice Vote of 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, 0 Abstain

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Mr. Gould noticed many grammar and technical mistakes in the minutes. Brought these to the attention of the committee and recording secretary Karen Harker where she will make the changes prior to posting the approved minutes. Motion To Approve Minutes of August 11, 2014, as amended Was Made By Mr. Anderson Seconded by Mr. Gould; Motion Carried By Voice Vote of 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, 0 Abstain.

Eddie Thomas came in to the meeting at 6:40 pm after the approval of the minutes and agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

- Public Comment opened at 5:33
 - Mr. Carter addressed the committee regarding the 3rd Stand Down for the Veterans coming up on Friday, September 26, 2014. This is a time when veterans can get a haircut, free food, clothing, tents and various items of necessity. This is a good thing for the Veterans. A lot of the Veterans enjoy coming and seeing people that they served with and it is almost like a reunion.
- Public comment closed at 5:34
- Fiscal Year 14-15 Revenue and Expenditure Report from Gas Tax and Engineering (Public Work Department)

Karen Harker presented to the Measure L Committee a Revenue and Expenditure Report for the Fiscal Year of 2014-2015 for the Public Works Department. This report

showed the dollar value that was budgeted to the Engineering Department and the Gas Tax Fund by the Fiscal Budget Resolution Number 14-60. Ms. Harker explained to the committee that the most significant expenditure for the Fiscal Year 14-15 will be the six streets that will be Micropaved in the fall by using funds in the amount of \$890,000.00 in the Gas Tax Fund. This expenditure will eliminate the line item 3205 in the Gas Tax Fund but the Committee could see a carry-over from the Fiscal Year 13-14. Another possible increase in revenue could be at mid-year adjustments or towards the end of the Fiscal Year 14-15 as the projections come in. At this time the recommendations could be made to do more streets in the spring of 2015.

Dennis Speer discussed the Pavement Management System (PMS) and how it rates every street in town up to a certain standard. When the first PMS was done, to bring the streets up to a "good condition" it would have cost the city 126 million dollars. The next PMS study came along and the City didn't have a high expectation but wanted to bring the streets out of a failing condition. The City also had an Infrastructure Committee that asked this question "if we were able to give the streets 15 million dollars of Tax Allocation Bond Funds where would the consultant put that money into the City streets". The Consultant made a recommendation of streets that needed to be paved along with another recommendation that the City would have to spend 1.5 million dollars each year to maintain the streets. This was the purpose of the tax or "Measure L". Measure L was to be a maintenance source not so much a revenue source to pay for reconstruction (building) of streets.

Mr. Garver - what streets are paved out on Mahan Avenue near Graaf Avenue? That area jogs around County land and back into City property. Captain McLaughlin and Mr. Speer discussed the area in and around Mahan Avenue and Graaf Avenue.

Ron Carter believes that it is important that when you are trying to sell a measure (such as Measure L) to get out into the public the positive things that are happening. He suggested a possible segment to the Daily Independent as a guest column and also putting up signs so that the public would know that their tax dollars were being spent.

Bob Gould felt that simple signs that state the objective of the committee and being able to see them and not have them be so small would be a benefit. He also thinks that the committee should put up signs for the road projects that are coming in the near future and being proactive by getting this out to the public.

Andy Anderson felt that if he wrote a letter to the editor informing about the streets that will be paved in the fall of 2014 and what streets Measure L funds participated in, that this would have a positive impact.

The committee on a whole felt that there needed to be a more proactive approach in getting the word out to the public more often about the roads that were being done now and in the future. This could be done with signs or through the media. Staff will be looking at how to get more signs for the roads.

Public Comment -

Stan Ratorja asked about the carry- over funding from Fiscal Year 13-14 and how much does staff think that would be. Mr. Speer indicated that yes there will be carry- over and will be placed in streets. As this time he didn't have a dollar value. At mid-year staff will amend the budget to reflect the carry-over and place it into the Gas Tax Fund for use in street maintenance and construction. Mr. Ratorja asked if there is no carry-over or increase in revenue for the Fiscal Year of 14-15 then the money has been spent this fall and there is no money for the spring. Mr. Speer indicated that was correct.

Ms. Breeden just wanted to ask Ms. Harker to clarify that it is six streets that are being Micropaved. In the beginning, she stated seven. Ms. Harker indicated that it was six.

Pass Resolution 14-02 – Rescinding Resolution 14-01 and Setting the Meeting to the Second Monday of Each Month

Mr. Gould asked if the only change was to 3(a) of the new resolution. Ms. Harker indicated that was all that she changed. Mr. Anderson asked about the date of the Annual Report and if that had stayed the same. Ms. Harker indicated that there was no specific date assigned anymore only that the Committee needs to present their report to the City Council by the second meeting in March of each year.

There was A Motion To Approve Resolution No.14 – 02 A Resolution Of The Measure L Citizens Oversight Committee Of The City Of Ridgecrest Clarifying Decorum, Meetings, And Agenda For Committee Meetings Rescinding Resolution No 14-01 Was Made By Mr. Gould Seconded by Mr. Anderson Motion Carried By Voice Vote of 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 0 Abstain.

CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Ron Carter – We had a good discussion and I would like to see the city have signs and regular updates and regular press updates. I believe that this would help get the word out about what is happening with the tax dollars.

Andy Anderson – any chance the committee can get the information about the projects that are being done in the community so that we can bring the public up to speed regarding the projects that Measure L has funded or getting ready to fund. Karen Harker informed the committee that she will send out the spreadsheet that she has been keeping regarding the Measure L Funding, plus they have the information that they received today on the roads being done for FY 14-15.

Bob Gould – On Saturday September 6, 2014, the RidgeProject held a fund raiser and the gal behind me Peggy Breeden did a great job. She is a true asset to our community and works really hard.

Eddie Thomas – I apologize to the Committee and to the Chair for being late the last couple of meetings. I have a senior citizen who is not well and has asked me to read to her on Monday's until 5:15-5:30 and I get over here as soon as I'm done with that. I mean no disrespect to the members of staff or the Committee.

Chair Garver – I see a new phase in the Measure L Committee. I would like to see us get information out to the public more often so that the public knows more about what is going on in the meetings instead of just one great big report. The Measure is going to be sun setting on us in less than 3 years and I believe that we need to bring more information to the public.

SUPPORT STAFF COMMENTS

Dennis Speer - Be sure to look at City Council Agenda on September 17, 2014 and October 1, 2014 as more projects are coming to the City Council for approval.

Captain McLaughlin – I would like to see PEAR come and be part of these meetings once and awhile. I think that they could help with the signage and getting the word out about Measure L.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

NEXT MEETING:

- October 13, 2014 Federal Holiday (Columbus Day)
- Karen Harker will check with the Finance Department to see if they have any items that need to come to the committee on the 13th of October. If they don't she will cancel the meeting. If there is something of importance, she will move forward.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting is adjourned at 6:40